# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

### IN THE MATTER OF:

JORGE LUIS GOMEZ ESQUILIN

Debtor

FIRSTBANK Puerto Rico Movant

JORGE LUIS GOMEZ ESQUILIN Jose Carrión Morales Respondents CASE NO: 17-05154 (ESL)

CHAPTER 13

- (x) an action against the
  estate under 11 USC \$1325(b) (1),
- (A) On Disposable Income Test or
- (B) Best Effort Test Commitment Period under the Plan.

# MOTION OBJECTING PLAN CONFIRMATION

TO THE HONORABLE COURT:

Comes now **FIRSTBANK Puerto Rico** through its undersigned counsel and respectfully alleges and prays:

### I. JURISDICTION.

1- That this Honorable Court has jurisdiction under 28 USC \$1334, 28 USC \$1408, 11 USC \$1325(b) (1) (A) on Disposable Income Test or Best-Effort and 11 USC \$1325 (b) (1) (B) on Commitment Period, and Local Bankr. R. 3015(b), Bankr. Rule 7004, C. Proc. R. 5(b) and 6 See Lundin, Keith M.; on Chapter 13 Bankruptcy: Chapter 5, at \$5.33 on Disposable Income.

## II. FACTS.

2- Debtor(s) filed a petition under Chapter 13 of the Bankruptcy Code on July 21, 2017. And on August 3, 2017, Movant filed an unsecured non priority proof of claim to a personal security loan deficiency for the amount of \$3,185.18 (account no. 1013). See, Clm Reg. 1

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- 3- Debtor(s) proposed Chapter 13 Plan dated July 21, 2017, provides a schedule of payments of  $$650.00 \times 60$  for a total base of \$39,000.00. See, Bkcy Dck no 2
- 4- Yet, during the 341 meeting that took place on August 23, 2017; it was brought to the Debtors attention that "he has failed to submit evidence of contribution form son and to disclosed it under Schedule I (\$650.00) All of it for the benefit of the General Unsecured Creditors. Yet, as of to this day, no amended plan, nor amended schedules has been filed to reflect said disposable income. See, Bkcy Dck 2 and 12

### III. APPLICABLE LAW.

Bankruptcy L Rule 9013-2 (a) specifically provides that except as provided in subsection (b) of this LBR, any motion or response thereto must be accompanied by supporting memorandum that contains the points and authorities in support of the party's position, together with any affidavits or documents in support thereof.

5- In 1984 Congress added §1325(b) to the Code, best known as the "disposable income test". This section prohibits the bankruptcy court form confirming a Chapter 13 plan over the objection of the Trustee or the holder of an allowed unsecured claim unless one of two conditions are met: (1) "the value of the property to be distributed under the plan on account of such claim is not less than the amount of such claim", or (2) "the plan provides that all the debtor(s) projected disposable income to be receive in the three (3) years period beginning on the date of the first payment is due under the plan will be applied to make payments under the plan. Id. Lundin, Keith M., pg. 5-89 Thereafter, with the adoption of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Protection Consumer Act of 2005 (BAPCPA 2005) in addition to Schedules I and J a Chapter 13 Statement of Current Monthly Income and Calculation

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of Commitment Period and Disposable Income must be completed by every individual Chapter 13 debtor.

- 6- Section 1325(b) (1) (A) restrains the Court from confirming upon an objection unless the Debtor(s) make their "best-effort" under the plan. Id. Lundin Keith M. pg. 5-161
- 7- Although, not defined under the amended 11 USC \$101 of the Code, for eligibility purposes "income" has been broadly interpreted to include wages, salary, commissions, assistance payments, benefits programs, entitlements programs, pensions, receipts from the sale of crops. As well, the courts has held that the liquidation of a personal injury cause of action subsequent to the filing of the Chapter 13 bankruptcy case would constituted projected disposable income for purposes of \$1325(b). On the equity on the liquidation of a property please refer to Id. Pg. 5-95
- Under BAPCA 2005 the amendments to 11 USC \$1325 (b) (1) (A) requires that the disposable income dedicated to the plan must be paid to unsecured creditors. The former 11 USC \$1325 (b) (2), defining disposable income, was struck and in its inserted:...(2) for purposes of this subsection, the term "disposable income" was defined to mean current monthly income received by the debtor (other than child support payments, foster car payments, or disability payments for a dependent child made in accordance with applicable non-bankruptcy law to the extent reasonably necessary to be expended for such child) less amounts reasonably necessary to expended - ...
- 9- Current with this change, 11 USC §1325 (b) (1) (B) was amended to substitute "applicable commitment period" for the "three year period" in the term "applicable commitment period" is defined in a new subsection (4), again measuring the debtor's

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current monthly income against median income and using the same language as seen in 11 USC §1322(d).

10- Under 11 USC §1325 (b) (4) the Code, as amended, provides the guidelines for what will constitute the "applicable commitment period".

## IV. PLEA.

- 11- Debtor(s) filed a petition under Chapter 13 of the Bankruptcy Code on July 21, 2017. And on August 3, 2017, Movant filed an unsecured non priority proof of claim to a personal security loan deficiency for the amount of \$3,185.18 (account no. 1013). See, Clm Reg. 1
- 12- Debtor(s) proposed Chapter 13 Plan dated July 21, 2017, provides a schedule of payments of  $$650.00 \times 60$  for a total base of \$39,000.00. See, Bkcy Dck no 2
- 13- Yet, during the 341 meeting that took place on August 23, 2017; it was brought to the Debtors attention that "he has failed to submit evidence of contribution form son and to disclosed it under Schedule I (\$650.00) All of it for the benefit of the General Unsecured Creditors. Yet, as of to this day, no amended plan, nor amended schedules has been filed to reflect said disposable income. See, Bkcy Dck 2 and 12
- 14- The debtor is to complying with the obligations 11 USC \$1325(b) (1) (B) on commitment period, and 11 USC \$1325 (b) (1) (A) on disposable income.
- 15- For the reasons stated here-in-before Movant does not accept the plan, since the debtor(s) does not comply with the best-effort test.

WHEREFORE, FIRSTBANK Puerto Rico respectfully requests from this Honorable Court to denied Debtor's plan confirmation, or order

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the amendment of the proposed plan to comply with the Disposable Income Test.

# RESPONSE TIME NOTICE

# THE RESPONSE TIME NOTICE DISCLOSED HEREINAFTER WAS AMENDED BY GENERAL ORDER 17-05 QUOTE THEREAFTER

Within fourteen (14) days after service as evidenced by the certification, and additional three (3) days pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9006 (f) if you were served by mail, any party against whom this paper has been served, or any party to the action who objects to the relief sought herein, shall serve and file an objection or other appropriate response to this paper with the Clerk's Office Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico. If no objection or other response is filed within the time allowed herein, the paper will be deemed unopposed and may be granted unless: (i) the requested is forbidden by law; (ii) the requested relief is against public policy; or (iii) in the opinion of the Court, the interest of justice requires otherwise.

# Rule 9013-1 (h)

# GENERAL ORDER 17-05 EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES AND BAR DATES

In light of the passage of hurricane María through Puerto Rico this past Tuesday, September 19, 2017, and the lack of electrical power and internet service in many areas of the island; all periods set by status of limitations applicable to causes of action, cases and proceedings filed, or to be filed in this court are hereby extended until Monday, November 6th, 2017.

This Order amends and supersedes the General Order 17-04

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 27th September, 2017.

### General Order 17-04

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this same date a true and correct copy of the present motion was sent by the CM/ECF System of the Bankruptcy Court House to: - Chapter 13 Trustee Atty. José Carrión

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Morales, //Atty. Alejandro Oliveras Rivera; - to the Attorney for the Debtor's ROBERTO FIGUEROA CARRASQUILLO; to the list of Creditors; and to the Debtor(s) by regular mail at the address on record, JORGE LUIS GOMEZ ESQUILIN, at PARCELAS NUEVAS, STREET 33, #551, GURABO, PUERTO RICO 00778.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico this the 20th day of October, 2017

BY: /s/ María M. Benabe Rivera
María M. Benabe Rivera
Attorney for Movant - US - DC 208906
Maricarmen Colón Díaz - US - DC 211410
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The preferred mailing address (p) above has been substituted for the following entity/entities as so specified by said entity/entities in a Notice of Address filed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 342(f) and Fed.R.Bank.P. 2002 (q) (4).

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